

posed his descendants to painful reproach by continuing on record. He therefore sought permission, when the removal of the unfriendly ruler took place, to inquire into the truth and justice of that report, that if found altogether false and calumnious, it might be removed from the historic page of the land of his children. It was not judged expedient to assume inquiry, after such length of time had elapsed; and the Refugee sought to compose himself in his retreat; but the interests of the Colony and of his fellow refugees still occupied his mind, and a measure being threatened that he thought unjust and conducive to evil, he addressed to the Secretary of State the following letter:—

“Sir—I feel that my actual situation may not justify the liberty, but the deep interest I have in the subject impels me to this intrusion.

“The public journals announce meetings in Canada of the Presbyterians attached to the Church of Scotland, in order to preter to the three estates in Parliament, claims to which they are said to entertain, in exclusion of all other dissenters from the Church of England.

“There is no doubt that this measure is connected with the proposition of Mr. W. Horton, to sell the lands reserved for the support of a Protestant Clergy in Canada, and to admit the Scotch Presbyterians to a partition in the proceeds, with the Church of England.

“Such a measure cannot fail to produce alarming consequences in Upper Canada.

“The combined numbers of the Churches of England and Scotland do not exceed one-tenth of the population of that Province.

“At present, that vast majority of Dissenters submit respectfully to the appropriation of the Clergy Reserves for the sole use of the Clergy of the Church of England, because they know that by an Article of the Union with Scotland, that Church is to be established in all the Colonies of Great Britain; and that by the Constitutional Charter of Upper Canada those Reserves are expressly and exclusively devoted to the endowment of the National Church in lieu of its legal right to Tithes. With this knowledge, they are content silently to submit to the distinction in favor of the National Church, and to support their own teachers; but as soon as that line of demarcation is passed, and the national funds are applied to the maintenance of the tolerated Church of Scotland,